



## SCHOOL UPDATES

### ATTENDANCE:

YEAR GROUP	AUTHORISED ABSENCE (%)	UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE (%)	OVERALL (%)
RECREPTION	1.7	0	98.3
YEAR 1	2.6	0	97.4
YEAR 2	0	0	100
YEAR 3	0	3.3	96.7
YEAR 4	3.2	0	96.8
YEAR 5	0	3.4	96.6
YEAR 6	0.8	0	99.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>97.9</b>

Well done to Year 2 who have maintained 100% attendance so far this week!

### CURRICULUM EVENING:

A huge thank you to all those who attended our Autumn Term Curriculum Evening on Monday. The evening provided an opportunity for parents/carers to meet class teachers, have a look around classrooms and receive some information regarding the upcoming year. For those unable to make the evening, slides from the presentation can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/y9zzemn3>, and curriculum booklets and maps will be sent out in your child's blue bag.

### THINKING MATHS WEEK:

Next week, we will be having our first 'Thinking Maths Week' of the year; during this week, pupils will be taking a part in a range of problem-solving and reasoning challenges which are designed to get them using their mathematical brains in practical ways. We will share some examples of our work via the school Twitter feed (@whickhamstmarys).

### CHANGE OF DATE:

Due to an unforeseen diary clash, we will be changing one of our planned Parents' Evening dates this term. Parents' Evenings will now be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November (3:30-6:30pm). Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

## REMINDERS

### SCHOOL PHOTOS:

Please ensure that all orders for school photos are received in to the school office by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

### PANTO MONEY:

Please could parents/carers (Years 1-6) ensure that payment is made via the SIMS Agora system for our trip to the panto at the Theatre Royal (13.12.18) by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October. If your child will not be going on the trip, please get in contact with the school office to make this intention known.

#### RECEPTION CLASS OPEN MORNING:

For anyone who has a child who will start school in September 2019, there is an open day on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. There will be two sessions, one starting at 9:30am, and one at 1:30pm; each session will consist of a tour of the school, to see the school in full swing, and an opportunity then to have a chat with Mr Wheatley and ask questions you may have about the school or the admissions process. Please spread the word to other interested parties, and if you are unable to attend on this day, please just get in contact with school to arrange a mutually convenient alternative. Applications for children who attend Duckpool Pre-school, or whose parents/carers have already expressed interest in applying for a place at St Mary's, will receive a pack outlining the admissions process, and copies will be available at our open day. The deadline for Admissions to Reception 2018-19 is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

#### SECONDARY ADMISSIONS:

Please be reminded that the deadline for the online application is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018.

#### CLASS LITURGY DATE ERROR:

It has come to our attention that some of the dates sent out for Class Liturgies were duplicated in error. To confirm, the dates for this term's Class Liturgies are as follows:

- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October – Year 4
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Year 3
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Year 2
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November – Years 1 and 6
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Reception and Year 5

The dates given for Years 2, 3 and 4 on 22/11, 29/11 and 6/12 were given in error. Apologies for the mix-up.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING:

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September, The Friends of St Mary's will be hosting and taking part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning with all donations going to Macmillan Cancer Support. Invitation is open to everyone, so please bring as many friends and family along and join us in the school hall from 9-10.30 for a cuppa and slice of cake. We are asking you to lend your support by baking or buying a cake to sell on the day (there will also be an opportunity to buy a slice on the yard from 3pm); you can find plenty of ideas and inspiration at [www.coffee.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.coffee.macmillan.org.uk). We look forward to seeing as many people as possible on the day.

##### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION LITURGIES:

The first Sunday Liturgy for this year's Sacramental Preparation programme ('Welcome') will be held during 9:30am Mass at St Mary's RC church on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Dates for following Liturgies are as follows:

- Liturgy 2 (Baptismal Renewal) – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November
- Liturgy 3 (Rite of Election for Reconciliation) – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November
- First Reconciliation – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November (6pm).

NEXT WEEK (1.10.18 – 5.10.18)

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- A large, light blue watermark of the St Mary's School crest is centered on the page. The crest is a shield with a white border, containing a white star at the top, a white crown at the bottom, and the letters 'S', 'M', and 'S' in white on a blue background.
- MONDAY – Bishop's Cup First Round at St Mary's (pupils involved will receive a letter)
- TUESDAY – C2C meeting for parents 4:30pm at school
- WEDNESDAY – Reception 2019-20 open day (9:30am-10:30am or 1:30pm – 2:30pm); all welcome – please ring ahead to specify preferred time
- THURSDAY – Family Learning session 3/5 (9am)
- FRIDAY – Friends of St Mary's meeting (9am in school – all welcome)
- Y2 Great Fire of London workshop
- Sports Crew Training at Gateshead Leisure Centre (pupils involved will receive a letter)